

Jeopardy Assessment

Proposed Incidental Take Permit:

Nine Springs Valley Interceptor Improvements - McKee Road to Dunn's Marsh Project (ITP 365)

Species: Silphium Borer Moth

Location: Dane County

Background

Project Information

The Nine Springs Valley Interceptor Improvements – McKee Road to Dunn's Marsh project includes construction of new sanitary interceptor sewer along Military Ridge Trail and Cannonball Path in the City of Fitchburg & the City of Madison.

Work includes construction of a new sanitary interceptor between the sizes of 36-Inch and 48-Inch along with reconnecting existing local sewers and laterals. The existing sanitary sewer manholes and 42-Inch and 36-Inch sanitary sewer in the project corridor will be abandoned in place, with a select amount being removed. As a result of construction, various sections of existing storm sewer will be replaced, a portion of the existing MMSD ductile iron forcemain will be relayed and a section of City of Madison ductile iron watermain will be relayed.

The proposed sanitary sewer will replace an existing run of sanitary sewer that's currently along the west side of Military Ridge Trail/north side of Cannonball Path with the majority lying within private property. The new sewer will be placed east/south of the existing sewer primarily within the existing path right-of-way for better access for maintenance.

Tree removals and sections of path repair will be necessary where project limits impact the existing path. Path repair includes replacement of curb & gutter, pavement, signage and railing.

Total project disturbance includes 4.08-acres. The project will disturb existing path areas as well as unkept grass areas, maintained lawn areas, commercial areas, wetland areas and wooded areas.

Species Information

Silphium Borer Moth (*Papapaima silphii*), listed as state endangered, prefers sunny areas where host plants (Silphium species including prairie dock, cup-plant, rosinweed, and compass plant) exist in good numbers. Habitat is generally wet to dry-mesic prairie.

Conservation Measures

Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) hired Applied Ecological Services to perform a Rare Plant Survey, which is attached. Based on the survey results, the majority of the Silphium host plants will be avoided. Where *S. perfoliatum* (cup-plant) plants are disturbed, the restoration plans include replacement of these plants at a 3:1 ratio. Since a total of 5 plants will be disturbed, the project includes installation of 15 new cup-plants. Cup-plants will be winter-hardened 1-gal plugs, originating from seeds found in Dane County, Wisconsin or a county abutting Dane County, Wisconsin. Cup-plants will be planted in accordance with the nursery requirements, and the surrounding soil grade shall match the soil surface in the pot. Cup-plants shall be planted in clusters of three plants, each spaced at five feet apart. The clusters will be placed at Sites 1, 2, 9, 10 and 12. The Contractor shall be responsible for the

maintenance through the 1-year warranty period and for replacement if plantings as determined by the Engineer do not survive. The project will not cause permanent habitat loss and therefore will not include the creation of a new area of habitat.

Jeopardy Assessment

The proposed activity will minimize and mitigate impacts to the silphium borer moth and as a result, we anticipate that take of this species will be low. The department has determined that the proposed activity is not likely to appreciably reduce the likelihood of the survival or recovery of the silphium borer moth within the state, the whole plant-animal community of which they it is a part or the habitat that is critical to its existence.